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# A N N U A L  R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1942

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

to the Chairman and Members of the
Felixstowe Urban District Council,

for the year ended December 31st, 1942.

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Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Vital Statistics. Vital statistics have little value as part of a series, during the unstable and shifting conditions of war time, but I have inserted them as of local interest. As a basis for ascertaining the birth and death rate I have taken the population figure as recorded in the Local Food Office at the middle of the year 1942.

Births and Deaths. 128 births were registered, 60 males and 68 females, giving a birth rate of 17 per thousand.

74 deaths were registered in the district; of these 7 were assignable to other districts but we have 21 inward transfers of our own residents who died outside the district, so that the corrected number is 88. This gives a death rate of nearly 12 per thousand.

It will be noticed that our birth rate is greatly in excess of the average and the death rate only slightly so. This is explicable by the emigration of a large part of the older people and the relative preponderance of the young; peace time conditions being reversed.

There were five deaths of infants under 1 year of age, so that the infantile mortality rate is 39 per thousand births registered.

I have inserted separate tables for tuberculosis, cancer and infectious diseases.

Infectious diseases. The incidence of infectious disease has been very light, only 14 of those compulsorily notifiable having been recorded, 7 of which were military and 7 civilians. Among the civilians were 4 cases of scarlet fever, 2 of cerebro-spinal fever and 1 of ophthalmia neonatorum. The military cases included 3 of cerebro-spinal fever, three of erysipelas and one of pneumonia.

All of these except one case of scarlet fever and the case of opthalmia neonatorum were treated in hospital.

There were, of course, a certain number of sporadic cases of measles, whooping cough, chicken pox and mumps, but no epidemic.

One death from whooping cough was recorded.

(Since this report was written a death from cerebro-spinal meningitis has been returned as an inward transfer. A man aged 25.)

There have been several sporadic cases of scabies. These, when notified are visited by me or the Sanitary Inspector and home treatment is given. We have no facilities for institutional treatment of these cases and they have to have their baths in their own homes or lodgings.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. There were no cases of diphtheria in the district during 1942. Most of the prophylactic injections were given by the Assistant County M.O.H. at the school centres, 24 by myself as Local M.O.H. and 68 by medical practitioners in their private practice.

The approximate number of children in the district on December 31st 1942 was as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Under 5 years of age | ... | 571 |
| Between 5 and 15 | ... | 949 |

The percentage estimated as immunised on December 31st 1942 was

36.42 under 5 years of age
60.8 between 5 and 15

If to the above we add the 57 under 5 and the 11 over 5 who were inoculated by private practitioners the above percentages would be increased as follows:-

46.1 under 5 years of age
61.8 between 5 and 15

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. A Childrens Clinic is held every Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. and is administered by three fully trained and certificated nurses who advise on all matters connected with infant welfare and visit at the homes of the patients when necessary.

Ante-natal Clinics are held at the Centre on the first Monday of every month from 2 to 4 p.m. and are attended by a lady doctor, Dr. Parkinson, appointed by the County Authority. The doctor and nurses give advice and help in all matters concerned with confinement and accommodation during the lying in period. The County Council makes no provision for confinements to take place in Felixstowe as the possibility of invasion always has to be considered when it might be necessary to order the civilian population to leave the town, but persons living in Felixstowe may, if they wish, apply to the County M.O.H. at Ipswich for admission to a maternity home inland, through the scheme of the Ministry of Health or to the Hartismere Emergency Hospital through the County Council's scheme.

The nurses attend confinements with or without a doctor, but if a doctor is booked written permission for the nurse to attend must be brought by the patient.

Monthly visits are paid to the patients in their homes throughout pregnancy. There is, naturally, a shortage of home helps in the district but as much assistance as possible is given by the nurses.

All children under 5 years of age are seen once a month by Dr. Parkinson and as often as necessary by the nurses.

The Maternity Centre is held at the Salvation Army Hall, High Street, Walton, Felixstowe. The District Nurses live at No.110 High Street and their telephone number is Felixstowe 406.

A Clinic is held in the village of Kirton on the second Wednesday of each month but at present no doctor attends this Clinic.

The following is a summary of the work done in connection with the Centre during 1942.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number of confinements booked | - | With doctor - 70<br>Without doctor - 63. |
| Midwifery visits | - | 2401 |
| Maternity visits | - | 1334 |
| Miscarriages | - | 47 |
| Visits for general cases other than maternity | - | 2401 |
| Surgical cases visits | - | 24 |
| Tuberculosis visits | - | 54 |
| Health visits | - | 2247 |

In addition about 550 other visits have been paid to bedridden people mostly at the request of doctors for assistance in moving and washing helpless patients, giving enemas etc.

Hospital Accommodation. The Felixstowe Cottage Hospital receives patients from Trimley, Kirton and Falkenham as well as from Felixstowe and is staffed by all the medical practitioners of the town. It has 34 beds, 6 of which are kept for emergency cases. It is amply staffed and fully equipped for major surgical and radiological treatment.

Infectious diseases are treated at the Ipswich Isolation Hospital at the expense of the Felixstowe Urban District, an ambulance being sent from Ipswich for their removal.

Tuberculosis is under the care of the County Public Health Authority which arranges for domiciliary visits and sanatorium treatment when necessary.

Venereal diseases are treated at a Clinic held at the Ipswich Hospital.

Small pox, should it occur, would be dealt with by the County Public Health Authority which has accommodation set apart for that purpose.

Diagnosis of Tuberculosis, Diphtheria and Enteric by examination of pathological material, is done at the County Laboratory at Ipswich, fees for which are paid to the County Authority by Felixstowe.

Details as to the water and milk supplies, their examination and supervision, are given in the attached report of the Sanitary Inspector.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

G. J. CONFORD, D.M. (Oxon.) M.O.H.

23rd March, 1943.

## TUBERCULOSIS TABLE FOR 1942

| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Totals | | DEATHS Pul-monary | | DEATHS Non-pul-monary | | DEATHS Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Number on Register January 1st 1942 | 15 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 21 | 7 | | | | | | |
| Additions during 1942 | 5 | 3 | 5 | | 10 | 3 | | | | | | |
| Removed from Register during 1942 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | |
| Remaining on Register Dec.31st 1942 | 18 | 7 | 10 | 1 | 28 | 8 | | | | | | |

## TABLE OF CANCER MORTALITY FOR 1942

| Region affected | Age Groups. 40 - 60 | | 60 & over | | Totals | | Total both sexes |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Stomach | 1 | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Bowel | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Liver | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Bladder | | | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Mediastinum and Lung | 1 | | 1 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Bone (Sarcoma) | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| | 2 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 11 | 4 | 15 |

## TABLE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR 1942

| Disease | Age Groups 0 - 5 | | 5 - 10 | | 10 - 20 | | 20 - 30 | | Total | | Treated in Hospital. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Civilians | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Scarlet fever | | | | 2 | | 2 | | | | 4 | 3 |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Military. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | | | | | | | 3 | | 3 | | 3 |
| Pneumonia | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Erysipelas | | | | | | | 3 | | 3 | | 3 |
| Totals | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 2 | 8 | | 9 | 5 | 12 |

Annual Report of M.O.H.

Please circulate as quickly as possible

(1) Miss Newham (for Dr. Hutchinson)

(2) Dr. Norman-Smith

(3) Dr. Lethen

(4) Library-To retain

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Felixstowe Urban District Council.

Addendum to Medical Officer's Report for Year 1 9 4 2.

Vital Statistics corrected after receipt of Registrar General's Figures for 1942.

MORTALITY TABLE

| DISEASE | M | F | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cerebro-spinal fever | 1 | | 1 |
| Tuberculosis Pulm. | 2 | | 2 |
| Tuberculosis Non. Pulm. | 1 | | 1 |
| Cancer Stomach and Duodenum | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| " other sites | 10 | 4 | 14 |
| Diabetes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Intra-cranial Vascular lesions | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| Heart diseases | 10 | 14 | 24 |
| Bronchitis | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other diseases of digestive system | 1 | | 1 |
| Congenital malformation birth injuries etc. | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Suicide | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Road traffic accidents | 1 | | 1 |
| Other violent deaths | 1 | | 1 |
| All other causes | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Whooping cough | | 1 | 1 |
| TOTALS | 48 | 42 | 90 |

Population estimated by Registrar General ..... 7218

| | Male | Female | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births | 60 | 73 | 133 |
| Legitimate | 60 | 65 | 125 |
| Illegitimate | | 8 | 8 |

Birth rate 18·4 per thousand.
Death rate 12.4 per thousand.

Still births - Legitimate ... 3
Illegitimate ... 1

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age -
All Legitimate ... M. 2 F. 3. Total 5.

Infantile Mortality rate 37 per thousand births registered.

Infectious diseases.

Scarlet fever ... 3
Measles ... 2

# MORTALITY TABLE FOR 1942

| DISEASE | AGE PERIODS 0 - 1 | | 1 - 20 | | 20 - 40 | | 40 & over | | Totals | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | |
| Senile Myocardial Degeneration | | | | | | | 2 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Organic Heart disease | | | | 1 | | | 8 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Bronchitis | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Pneumonia | | | | | | | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Other respiratory diseases | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Pulmonary tuberculosis | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Other tuberculous diseases | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Cancer | | | | | | | 10 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 15 |
| Diarrhoea | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Enlarged prostate | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Cerebral Haemorrhage Thrombosis & embolism | | | | | | | 6 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 15 |
| Gastritis | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 |
| Pernicious anaemia | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Other diseases | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Whooping cough | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Convulsions | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Congenital malformations and other diseases of newborn | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Suicides | | | | | | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Accidents | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 |
| Totals | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 44 | 36 | 47 | 41 | 88 |

# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

## for 1942.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

During the year I ceased to be Milk Officer under the National Milk Scheme; I continue to act as Evacuation Officer, Food Decontamination Officer and Officer in Charge of billeting payments for persons made homeless by enemy action.

The collection of money paid by parents for the billeting of their children in the reception areas was continued through my office until November when it was taken over by the County Council. My Clerk, Mr. Hubbard, obtained another post soon afterwards and it was agreed that for the time being I should carry on without clerical assistance.

The following is a brief summary of the work of sanitary supervision during the year.

Water Supply. Three samples of water were taken from a shallow well which is giving an unsatisfactory supply. The well was cleaned out, rendered in cement and further samples are being taken.

Town's Water Supply. Two samples were taken during the year. The results of the later one is given:-

Council Offices, 17 Leopold Road, Felixstowe.
21st September 1942.

### RESULT OF ANALYSIS

Physical characteristics - Clear, colourless. No odour.

| | Parts per 100,000 |
|---|---|
| Free Ammonia | Trace |
| Albuminoid Ammonia | 0.005 |
| Oxygen absorbed in 2 hours at 37°C | 0.022 |
| Nitrogen as Nitrates | 0.025 |
| Nitrites | Absent |
| Chlorine in Chlorides | 3.20 |
| Poisonous Metals | None detected |

Impurity Figure Reaction pH. 7.2.

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Probable number coliform bacilli
MacConkey 2 days 37°C = nil per 100cc.

Plate Count 2 days 37°C = nil per cc.

" " 3 " Room Temp. = 2 per cc.

Remarks:-

The analysis of this water shows no evidence of harmful pollution.

Date: 24. 9.42. Signed M. ROSS
for County Bacteriologist.

Rats and Mice Act. 68 visits and revisits were paid to rat infested premises during the year and 16 notices given. Gassing with cyanogas was carried out on several occasions and visits made to Army billets and cook houses at the request of the military. On the whole good results were obtained. There is still a good deal of rat infestation in the district.

Milk Supply.

Cowsheds. We have six in use, three fewer than before the war. 46 visits were paid during the year. Conditions in general were good except at one shed where, after several visits, an improvement was made in general cleanliness and methods etc.

Dairies. There are now four in use. 45 visits of inspection were made.

Milk (Special Designations) Order

The following special licences were issued during 1942

| | |
|---|---|
| Bottlers of Tuberculin Tested | 1 |
| Bottlers of Accredited | 1 |
| Pasteuriser | 1 |
| Dealer in Tuberculin Tested | 1 |
| Dealer in Pasteurised | 1 |
| Dealer in Accredited | 1 |
| | 6 |

One dairyman obtained a licence to deal in Accredited but did not handle any during the year. The two dairymen handling Tuberculin Tested milk receive it from the same farm and one sample suffices for both supplies.

Samples of milk submitted for examination were:-

| | Samples taken | Results. Satis-factory | Unsatis-factory |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tuberculin Tested | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Accredited | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| Pasteurised | 11 | 6 | 5 |
| Ungraded | 1 | - | 1 |
| Total Samples | 21 | | |

Bakehouses. 8 now in operation. Visits paid 52. Notices given 3.

Food Inspection. There is now no regular slaughtering in the Urban District. Three or four householder's pigs were slaughtered on licensed premises by permission of the authorities Two slaughtermen retained their licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act.

The food condemned during the year consisted of tinned and bottled goods etc. Food inspections were made at the request of the Food Executive Officer and reports furnished to him when occasion required.

Public Health Act - Housing Acts. 80 complaints were received and 56 Notices given for the abatement of nuisances or remedying of housing defects. No statutory notices were served. 71 disinfections, either of rooms or bedding or both, were carried out.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT GREENWOOD, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

23rd March, 1943.